Loans advanced to farmers in Andhra Pradesh

*173. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has surpassed the target of farm loans of Rs. 1.72 lakh crore and achieved an unprecedented Rs. 1.75 lakh crore;

(b) if so, the details of loan disbursed in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has now set a target of disbursing Rs. 2.35 lakh crore to farmers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any target has been set for Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The details of ground level credit targets set and achieved by all agencies for the disbursement of loan to agriculture during the years 2006-07 to 2008-09 are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Target	Achievements
2006-07	1,75,000	2,29,400
2007-08	2,25,000	*1,62,701
2008-09	2,80,000	-

*Provisional figures upto December, 2007

During the year 2006-07, banks disbursed Rs. 24,669 crore of agricultural loans in Andhra Pradesh (commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks disbursed Rs. 19,078 crore; Rs. 3,092 crore and Rs. 2,499 crore respectively).

(e) and (f) A disbursement target of Rs. 22,650 crore has been set for Andhra Pradesh for the year 2007-08, of which the banks have already disbursed Rs. 18,742 crore (provisional figures) till December, 2007.

Updation of websites of Airports

*174. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that official websites of the Indian Airports are way behind their international counterparts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these sites offer no information on flight status, facilities at airports or tourist guide to their cities;

(c) whether Government is aware that it has been around eighteen months since the GMR-led consortium, Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL), was awarded the contract for the modernization of Delhi Airport; and

(d) if so, whether Government would like to fix the responsibilities and up-date the websites too?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The websites of Airports, including Indira Gandhi International Airport under the management of Delhi International Airport Private Limited (DIAL), are regularly updated so as to provide wide range of real time and customer friendly information. This is a continuous process and airport operators endeavour to keep the websites updated.

(d) Does not airse.

Promotion of village tourism

*175. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified fifteen rural locations for promotion of village tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia,* indicating the rural locations that have been identified in Orissa;

(c) how far tourism has picked up in such locations after its launch; and

(d) what is the mode of funding on infrastructure development in such identified rural locations?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to the State Governments/Union Territories for infrastructure development in rural sites having tourism potential under the Scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits. Community participation and capacity building, including skill upgradation in such rural sites are being supported through Government of India-United Nations Development Programme Endogenous Tourism Project and Capacity Building for Service Providers Scheme of the Ministry. Based on the proposal received from State Governments/Union Territories, Ministry of Tourism sanctions Rs. 50.00 lakh for infrastructure development and Rs. 20.00 lakh for capacity building for each rural site, subject to *inter-se* priority and availability of funds in the respective heads.

The list of 125 rural tourism sites identified so far in 27 States including Orissa is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Ministry of Tourism promotes and publicizes all tourism products including rural tourism sites through collaterals/print/electronic and internet media under the "Incredible India campaign". Information is also disseminated through the website and through India tourism offices in the country and abroad. There is a dedicated website for rural tourism *i.e. www.exploreruralindia.org.*

Artisans from several rural tourism sites have showcased their products through participation in fairs and festivals such as Deepawali Deep Utsav at Delhi Haat, Indian International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan, Surajkund Craft Mela, Surajkund, Toshali Mega Craft Mela and Shopping Festival, Bhubaneswar etc. Both domestic and international tourists have already started visiting rural tourism sites.